

*Medicare's Prescription Drug
Plan Finder Tool*

Nebraska SHIIP
Senior Health Insurance Information
Program
1-800-234-7119




Plan Finder Tool

* Available at:
– www.medicare.gov
– www.medicare.gov/MPDP/Public




Plan Finder Tool

- * Web tool designed to assist people with Medicare, their family members, and caregivers compare Medicare plans offering drug coverage
- * Landscape feature
- * Formulary finder
- * Resource toolkit
 - Tutorial cd
 - <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/partnerships/kitordering.asp>
 - Download at: www.cms.hhs.gov/partnerships



Plan Finder Tool

- * Allow beneficiaries to personalize their search for prescription drug coverage that best meets their needs
 - compare plans
 - use preferences to narrow results
- * Provides information on Prescription Drug Plans & Medicare Advantage Prescription Plans
- * Types of searches
 - Personalized searches
 - General searches



Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Personal Information Worksheet

Beginning January 1, 2006, new Medicare prescription drug coverage will be available to everyone with Medicare, regardless of income, health status, or how you pay for your prescription drugs. This plan will provide insurance coverage for brand name and generic prescription drugs. The drug plans may vary in what prescription drugs are covered, how much you have to pay, and which pharmacies you can use. It is important that you choose a plan that meets your needs.

How should I use this worksheet?

Use this worksheet to help gather all the information you need to choose a Medicare drug plan that meets your needs. Please fill out as much of the information in this worksheet as possible. You may find it helpful to gather all your prescription drug containers and your red, white, and blue Medicare card, as well as other health insurance cards you may have before you complete the worksheet.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Social Security Number: _____ Telephone Number: () _____
 Medicare Claim Number: _____
 Part A Effective Date: _____ Part B Effective Date: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Do you have a residence in more than just the above-mentioned state? Yes No

If yes, which state(s)? _____

Marital Status: Single Married?

If you are married, your spouse will need to complete a separate worksheet.

If your income is less than \$16,500 (single), or \$21,300 (couple) and your assets/resources are less than \$10,000 (single) or \$10,000 (couple)?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

If so, did you apply for the extra help from the Social Security Administration in paying for your Medicare prescription drug plan costs?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

If so, what was the response from the Social Security Administration?

☐ Accepted ☐ Declined ☐ Still pending

If you received this letter, please keep it with this worksheet. This will need to refer to it for information when you are choosing a prescription drug plan.

Medicare Service Center Information (800) 444-2211



Medicare.gov - The Official U.S. Government Site for People with Medicare - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.medicare.gov

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Site Updates

Want to Learn More About the New Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage? **NEW!**

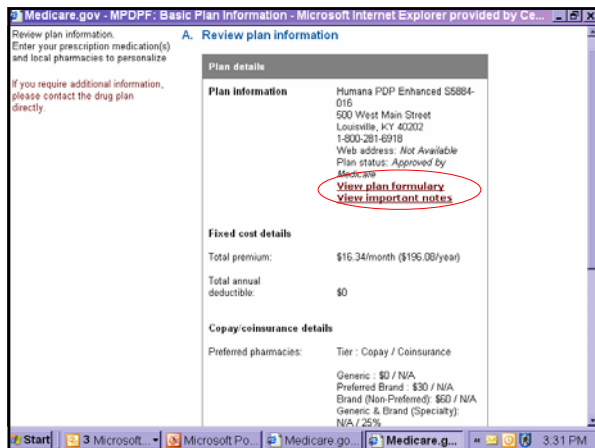
- Landscape of Local Plans **NEW!**
- Compare Medicare Prescription Drug Plans **NEW!**
- Formulary Finder **NEW!**

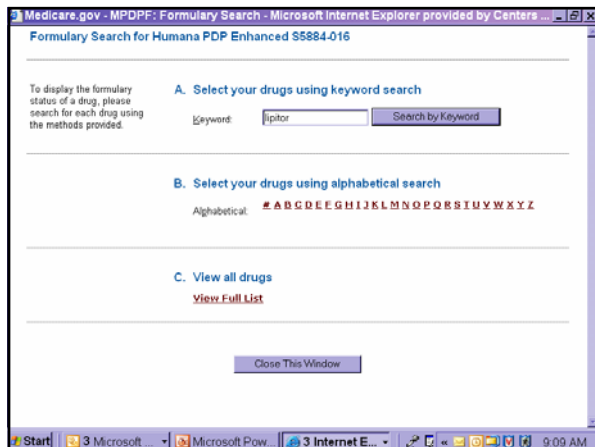
Medicare & You 2006 **NEW!**

Hurricane Katrina Information for people with Medicare and Medicaid and providers.


My Medicare.gov National Rollout Underway

Preventive Services Start Now!










Picking the Right Plan: #1 The Healthy Beneficiary

*Beneficiary who currently takes no prescription drugs but who has decided to enroll in a prescription drug plan before May 15, 2006 to avoid a penalty

– Plans to consider:

- **Plans with low monthly premium**
 - \$20 or less will buy some prescriptions in case of unexpected illness
 - Helps avoid the penalty later
 - Look at plans available at your choice pharmacy




#2: The beneficiary with high drug costs

*Beneficiary has high drug costs

– Plans to consider:

- **Plan that offers better than standard coverage and eliminates the doughnut hole**
 - Coverage usually for generic drugs
 - Higher monthly premiums
 - Look for plan with a flat co-payment instead of one that charges a co-payment percentage of total cost of drug
 - Look at plans available at your choice pharmacy




#3: The beneficiary who wants complete coverage from one company

*Beneficiary prefers to receive all health care (medical and prescription drugs) from one company

– Plans to consider:

- **Plan that is included as a part of a Medicare Advantage plan**
 - Look for a Medicare Advantage plan with prescription drug coverage
 - Look at plans available at your choice pharmacy




#4: The beneficiary who needs a specific medication

***Beneficiary needs a specific medication covered**

– Plans to consider:

- **Plan with specific medication on formulary**
 - Determine if generic or brand-name are covered (or both)
 - Look at plan's cost for medication
 - Note whether there are any plan issues that may limit beneficiaries access to that medication (ie: prior authorization, step therapy)
 - Look at plans available at your choice pharmacy




#5: The beneficiary who uses a lot of generic medications

***Beneficiary who uses a lot of generic medications**

– Plans to consider:

- **Plan that offers generic medications for a lower coinsurance or co-payment than brand names**
 - Look at plans with tiers that charge nothing or low co-payments for generic drugs
 - Look at plans available at your choice pharmacy



How does a beneficiary enroll?

***Beneficiary has selected the plan that best meets their needs. There are 3 ways to enroll in a plan:**

– 1. Enroll directly with the plan sponsor

- Plan website
- www.medicare.gov

– 2. Telephone


– 3. Paper form

- Mail or fax to plan sponsor



Members Will Receive

- * Plan membership card
- * Member handbook
- * Formulary listing (covered medications)
- * Pharmacy directory
- * Complaint and appeals procedures



For More Information

- * www.medicare.gov
- * www.cms.hhs.gov
- * 1-800-MEDICARE
 - 1-800-633-4227
- * Nebraska SHIP
 - 1-800-234-7119
- * PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!!!!
